# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RAILWAYS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:616
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
INTRODUCTION OF BULLET TRAINS
MINATI SEN

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Indian Railways had signed a MoU with theSpanish Railways for introduction ofbullet train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a feasibility study done earlier in 2000 by the Japanese had found that a bullet train was neither practicable nor financially viable here; and

(d) if so, the reasons for signing the MoU withSpanish Railways when the Indian Railways had rejected many proposals for introduction of railways in many areas with the plea that they were not financially viable due to resource crunch?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS ( SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA )

(a) to (d): A Statement is Attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS(a) TO (d) OF UNSTARREDQUESTION NO. 616 BY SHRIMATI MINASTEN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.7.2002 REGARDING INTRODUCTION OF BULLET TRAINS

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by the Ministry of Railways and the Spanish Railways (RENFE) for undertaking a feasibility study for running of High Speed Train between Mumbai -Ahmedabad. The proposal has beensent to Ministry of Finance for further processing. Ministry of Finance has further forwarded the proposal to Spanish Embassy in New Delhi.

(c) & (d): A study was undertaken by JICA(Japan InternationalCooperation Agency) in 1987 for Railway ImprovementPlan of Transport Capacity and Train Speed on the Delhi-Kanpur section.Total investment was put at around Rs.2200 crores (in 1987 prices) for laying a new high speed corridor between Delhi-Kanpur. This study is about 15 years old. The traffic figures now indicate that Mumbai-Ahmedabad is the heaviest corridor.

It is considered worthwhile to undertake a fresh study. The decision about its funding will be taken up once the feasibility of the project is established. It will be offered to prospective investors through Build, Own, & Operate route or through Public-private partnership, based on the feasibility established.